

In the Specification:

Please amend the Specification by replacing paragraphs with the following amended paragraphs, showing amendatory notation:

[0004] Typically, a kit includes a transparent plastic tray with compartments in which the tools and accessories are disposed, the tools and accessories having varying shapes and sizes. One such kit is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,311,990, wherein several compartments are shown that are shaped and sized to accommodate particular tools and accessories. In order to maintain sterility of the articles within the kit between the time of kit assembly and use, the tray and all of the kit components are typically inserted into a TYVEK® bag that is sealed to preserve sterility.

[0006] Briefly, the present invention provides a reclosable tray such as for medical instruments. The tray comprises upper and lower portions, the a lower portion having a first major lower side having a lower hinge portion, a second major lower side having a first lower locking portion, and a first and second minor lower ~~side~~ sides connecting the first major lower side and the second major lower side. Likewise, the ~~An~~ upper portion of the tray comprises a first major upper side having an upper hinge portion hingedly connected to the lower hinge portion of the first major lower side, a second upper major side having a first upper locking portion, and a first and second minor upper ~~side~~ sides connecting the first major upper side and the second major upper side. The first lower locking portion includes a first lower tab and the first upper locking portion includes a first upper tab. The first lower tab is engageable with the first upper tab to releasably retain the second upper major side proximate to the second lower major side. The upper portion includes a plurality of indentations at least one of which is partially received into a portion of a respective one of a plurality of compartments in the lower portion, thus to hold in place the tools and accessories

within their appropriate respective compartments and securing them against migration during shipping and handling.

[0012] In the drawings, like numerals indicate like elements throughout. Referring to Fig. 1, a perspective view of a reclosable medical accessory tray 100 is shown. The tray 100 is shown as a one-piece, integral article in an open position to better illustrate the features of the tray 100. While the tray 100 shown and described is preferably used to store and transport a vascular access catheter (not shown) and accessories required for the surgical implantation of the catheter, those skilled in the art will recognize that the tray 100 of the present invention may be used to store and transport other medical devices and accessories as well.

[0013] The tray 100 includes a lower portion 110 and an upper portion 160. The lower portion 110 includes a plurality of article-receiving compartments 112 for retaining medical accessories (not shown), such as, for example, a catheter and tools for inserting the catheter into a patient. Although the tray 100 is preferably used for retaining a catheter and catheter inserting tools, those skilled in the art will recognize that the tray 100 may be used for retaining other components instead. It is shown in Figure 1 that the compartments 112 vary in shape, size and depth to accommodate particular ones of tools and accessories that also similarly are known vary in configuration, size and height.

[0018] The upper portion 160 includes a plurality of indentations 162 that cooperate with the compartments 112 in the lower portion 110 when the tray 100 is in a closed position to restrain accessories (not shown) in the compartments 112 from shifting or dislodging during shipping. The plurality of indentations 162 are shown to vary in shape, size and depth generally to correlate to various associated ones of compartments 112 or portions thereof and to also accommodate

particular ones of the various tools and accessories for those compartments. It is seen that certain elongate ones of the indentations not only are configured to be received partially into respective ones of elongate compartments 112 but also traverse a deep large compartment 112 that the elongate compartments traverse.

[0025] The first upper locking portion 184 is pushed downward into the opening 139, while the first lower locking portion 134 is pushed upward into the opening 189. The flexibility of the material from which the tray 100 is constructed allows the first upper locking portion 184 to be manipulated to be displaced below and be partially overlapped by the first lower locking portion 134, as shown in Fig. 3, and being releasably interlockable. Similarly, the second upper locking portion 194 is pushed downward into the opening 149, while the second lower locking portion 144 is pushed upward into the opening 199. The flexibility of the material from which the tray 100 is ~~constricted~~ constructed allows the second upper locking portion 194 to be manipulated to be displaced below and be partially overlapped by the second lower locking portion 144, as shown in Fig. 4, and being releasably interlockable. A perspective view of the tray 100 in a closed and locked position is shown in Fig. 2.

[0026] To open the tray 100, the first upper locking portion 184 is pushed upward into the opening 189, while the first lower locking portion 134 is pushed downward into the opening 139. The flexibility of the material from which the tray 100 is constructed allows the first upper locking portion 184 to be displaced above the first lower locking portion 134. Similarly, the second upper locking portion 194 is pushed upward into the opening 199, while the second lower locking portion 144 is pushed downward into the opening 149. The flexibility of the material from which the tray 100 is ~~constricted~~ constructed allows the second upper locking portion 194 to be displaced above the second lower locking portion 144. The upper portion 160 is pivoted about the hinge 173

so that the upper portion 160 is displaced away from the lower portion 110. The accessories in the compartments 112 may now be accessed.